

Lesson Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Lesson ID: 32156-96202

Title: JPOTF CMD RELATIONSHIPS

Operation/Exercise Name: UNITED SHIELD

Observed: 20 Mar 1995

Originator: JPOTF

POC: LTC ST. JOHN Commercial: DSN:

5. (U) OBSERVATION:

The JPOTF served as a separate component under the Combined Task Force Commander.

6. (U) DISCUSSION:

Doctrine classifies psyop as an offensive weapons system and psyop staff officers work under the staff supervision of the force operations officer. However, psyop capabilities were maximized by CTF UNITED SHIELD by establishing a psyop task force as a separate component. JPOTF conducted operations directly for the Task Force Commander and supported the other components as required. Component support included but was not limited to tactical psyop attached to the landing force. The UNOSOM withdrawal was a fast paced operation whereby psyop had to remain flexible and be immediately responsive to the commander as the ground and political situation changed. Having the JPOTF as a separate component greatly enhanced the flexibility and responsiveness of psyop support to the operation.

7. (U) LESSON LEARNED:

During Operation UNITED SHIELD, the JPOTF functioned as a separate component responsible directly to the Combined Task Force Commander. This command relationship helped integrate psyop into all CTF operations.

8. (U) RECOMMENDED ACTION:

A psyop task force should be established as a separate component command to support Joint/Combined Task Forces.

9. (U) COMMENTS:

None.

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